

Appl. No. 09/865,400
Amdt. dated Dec. 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 16, 2004

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments and consideration of the following remarks. This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on August 16, 2004.

A Petition and Fee for a one-month extension of time are enclosed. In the event that an additional extension is needed or fees are required, applicant hereby request such extension and/or request that all such fees be charged to our deposit account no. 13-3250.

OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been objected to. A substitute Abstract is included herewith.

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS UNDER 37 CFR 1.75(c)

Claim 9 has been objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) as being in improper form. Claims 12-21 have also been objected to as not being numbered consecutively.

By this Amendment, applicant has amended claim 9 to be dependent on claims 1 or 2 only. Claims 12-16 have also been amended to be numbered consecutively. Claims 17-21 have been cancelled.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims in their amended form overcome the above identified objections and are now in condition for allowance.

REJECTIONS UNDER §103

Claims 1-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,940,843 to Zucknovich et al. ("Zucknovich") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,717,914 to Husick et al. ("Husick").

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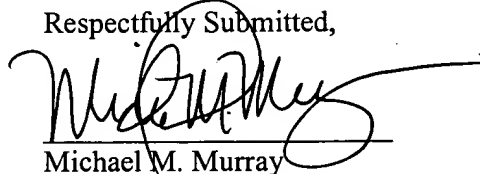
In certain embodiments, the present invention features utilizing subjective reviews of a book (e.g., by other readers or by critics) in order to greatly facilitate the selection of books by a user. Claim 1 specifically recites that the “server has at least a title of a book whose review is carried by a medium in the database and a name of the medium carrying the review” and further requires that, “at a request of the client, at least the title of the book and the number of reviews carried by the medium are output to the client through the network.” This information enables users to evaluate books and to make more informed choices about the books they might wish to buy.

However, neither Zucknovich nor Husick relates to providing users with access to reviews of books, as recited in claim 1. Zucknovich relates to the distribution of financial research, etc., and has nothing to do with the selection of books or providing subjective book reviews, potentially from many different sources. Husick is a document retrieval system that does not disclose providing the claimed book reviews.

In the system taught by the present invention, when a client obtains reviews of books it will greatly assist the user in deciding whether or not a book is of interest and should be purchased. The cited references do not teach or suggest the claimed invention.

For the reasons discussed above, Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of all claims.

Dated: Dec. 16, 2004

Respectfully Submitted,

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